

THE COLORADO LIBERTY

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Libertarian Party
of Colorado
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ATTENTION!
This MAY BE One
of the LAST ISSUES
of the Colorado Liberty
FOR YOU!

See Page 5 for details!

HB1404

Signed!
Details on Page 11

Feature Story:

The "Ladies of
Liberty"

Details on Page 11

Special Cover

**Rick Stanley &
the US Constitution**

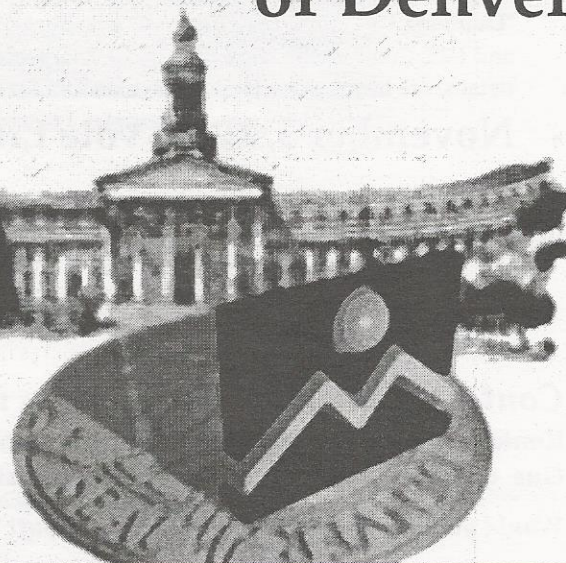
Versus

Story—Page 4:

The City, County,

(& Apparently the NATION)

of Denver



Late June • Early July 2002

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Boulder Lunch	El Paso Meeting 7 pm	Routt Cty 7 pm			Bill of Rights Rally—Noon Denver Breakfast 8 am El Paso County 10 am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Boulder Lunch	El Paso Meeting 7 pm	El Paso Biz 7 pm			Taste of Marijuana— CO Springs Denver Breakfast 8 am El Paso County 10 am
30	July 1	2	3	4	5	6
	Boulder Lunch	Ft. Collins 7 am SPECIAL RESCHEDULED State Board Meeting 7:30 El Paso Meeting 7 pm	Broomfield LP 7 pm	Jefferson Cty 6 pm		South CO Lib Alliance 9 am Denver Breakfast 8 am El Paso County 10 am
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Boulder Lunch	Southside Denver 7 pm Western Slope (Montrose) 7pm El Paso Meeting 7 pm		Boulder LP 6:30		Denver Breakfast 8 am El Paso County 10 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Boulder Lunch	El Paso Meeting 7 pm	Routt Cty 7 pm			Bill of Rights Rally—Noon Denver Breakfast 8 am El Paso County 10 am

----- Special Future Events -----

- **Bill of Rights Rallies, June 22nd & July 20th.** Liberty Park at the War Memorial obelisk just west of the Capital Building at High Noon! Speakers welcome on any topic related to the Bill of Rights. This is a MUST for candidates to hone their speaking skills and specialized speeches!
- **Libertarian Party of Colorado Awards Banquet, August 17.** John Taylor Gatto will be the featured speaker. Gatto is the author of "Dumbing Us Down: The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling." The event will be held at the Radisson Inn, Academy and I-25, Colorado Springs, 6pm. Cost: \$45/person. Contact Nancy Graves, 719.570.0747 or ladynancy@pcisys.net or visit . For details, see <http://www.lpep.org/events.htm> for details.
- **November 5, 2002: Vote Libertarian!**

Do you have a special or recurring event you'd like to see in this space or the calendar? Contact Jim Vance at jvance@JamesVance.com with your event information.

Content contributions in this issue by: David Bryant, BetteRose Ryan, David Aitken, Michelle Konieczny, Ari Armstrong, Linda Sanders, Joe Johnson, John Berntson, Robert Rapplean, Ken Gorman, Gus Calabrese, Joanne Yamaguchi, Biff Baker, Ralph Shnelvar, Desiree Hickson, Jim Vance and Jeff Oliver.

Would you like to be on this list? Help us out! Be a contributing writer, photographer, or editorialist!

Contacts—The Libertarian Party of Colorado

Meetings are subject to change without notice. Contact the specific chapter contact for details. Please send any corrections or additions to Publications Director Jim Vance.

Libertarian Party of Colorado

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Meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Contact State Chair John Berntson for location information @ 719.532.0118 or LPCOChair@lpcolorado.org.

Want to start a local affiliate or campus organization, contact the State Chair John Berntson.

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Notes from the Chair: State of Grace



John Berntson writes his Notes from the Chair article for the Liberty monthly and is in his second year

Wow! What a weekend!

I don't know if you made it to our convention in Leadville last month. If you did, you already know what I am talking about. If you didn't, you missed quite a treat.

This convention far outpaced any that had gone before. Ari and Jennifer Armstrong wore themselves to a frazzle pulling it off. Carol Hill, I am told, was an immense help. Joe Johnson and Elizabeth Bennett, as always, had their well-worn hands into everything.

What did they—and we—accomplish?

First of all, we nearly doubled our normal convention attendance, with more than 180 people. I think we also tripled the number of people voting in a business meeting, though I do not have any figures to back that up. There's nothing like having a few contested races to bring people in.

Contested races we had, for the US Senate nomination, the gubernatorial nomination, and for the right to write this column. I will not give you the specifics of these races; either you already know them or you can read about them in the pages that follow. However, it is not an exaggeration to say that these races were hotly contested. Our party, which at one time looked for people to strap to the altar during campaign season, now had people fighting hard to get the nod. We had factions. We had disagreement. We had intrigue. We had a floor fight.

Yet, if I had to describe what I witnessed that Saturday in one word, that word would be *grace*.

When the outcome of the senate race became clear, Mr. D'Ippolito immediately walked over to Mr. Stanley,

shook his hand, and said something to the effect of "Knock 'em dead." Mr. Vance turned right around, joined the board as Publications Director, and found himself another race to run in. Minutes after he was through opposing me, Mr. McKinzie joined the board as Outreach Director, and he has not stopped moving since.

But there was just as much grace shown by those who won their races. Mr. Shnelvar had nothing but the highest compliments to pay to Mr. Vance. Nobody was unmoved by Mr. Stanley's address to the banquet that evening.

From many, one. People put their fights behind them. The party came together. Nobody was more pleased - or surprised! - than I was.

You see, I was sort of expecting acrimony. There was enough passion and vitriol being produced by all sides in the weeks leading up to the convention that I thought we would have to spend the summer repairing a schism. I fully expected people to walk out of the hall in protest, no matter who won.

The nice thing about people, I guess, is that they continually surprise you. When you think about what might have happened, it really turned out well. Oh, we might not be enjoying warm showers together for some time, but the party came together in the end, and that is what matters. We avoided the sorts of things that split the Arizona party. So, you might say, the party showed grace as a whole.

Why did we do so well? I'm not entirely sure, but I think the key is that nobody left the convention with everything they wanted. Perhaps that is a good thing.

Now we find ourselves in a five-month sprint to Election Day. If you are ever going to get involved in party affairs, this is the time. Campaign season is not only when we try to get people elected, it is also when we do the most towards building the party. We have so much to do and little time to get it all done, so get busy. (Um, *please*.) Rick Stanley would like your help. So would Ralph Shnelvar. Lots of other campaigns also need help. Mike McKinzie already needs people to man the many booths he has planned.

We have set ourselves a good example, thus far, and have shown good grace. May we continue to do so. Also, may Mr. Owens and Mr. Allard show just as much grace - in defeat.

—John K. Berntson

"Yet, if I had to describe what I witnessed that Saturday in one word, that word would be grace."

Kangaroo Court Convicts Stanley, Philp

4

Rick Stanley, Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate, and local gun-rights activist Duncan Philp were both convicted last month of violating Denver municipal code section 38-117.5(b) by openly carrying a deadly weapon. The defense will appeal both convictions on constitutional and procedural grounds.

Stanley and Philp were arrested on December 15, 2001, during a Bill of Rights rally at Veterans Park in Denver, where each openly holstered a firearm on their hip. The two were performing an act of civil disobedience intended to force the courts to declare this ordinance unconstitutional.



Duncan Philp arrested on December 15, 2001



Rick Stanley arrested on December 15, 2001

After several delays requested by the city, Rick's trial finally commenced on May 15, 2002. Defense attorney Paul Grant requested a jury of 12 people. The motion was

denied by Judge Robert L. Patterson, who ordered a jury of 6. After the preliminary proceedings and before calling in the jury pool, Patterson ordered the courtroom cleared of all observers. Grant objected to this, saying it would deny his client a public trial. Patterson finally allowed the observers to re-enter the courtroom after the potential jurors had been seated.

Five of the 12 potential jurors chosen for voir dire were employees of the city and county of Denver. While questioning one city employee -- a Denver police officer -- Grant drew objections when he asked a hypothetical question about jury instructions. The question mentioned the Second Amendment and Article II, Section 13 of the Colorado constitution, both of which guarantee a citizen's right to keep and bear arms.

Prosecutor Paul Patterson objected to the question, and after restoring order to the courtroom, sent the jury pool for lunch. Patterson then proceeded to lecture Mr. Grant, stating he had already issued an order in the case directing him not to mention the U.S. Constitution, or the Colorado constitution, during the trial. The judge asked Mr. Grant if he understood, and he replied he did not. Patterson explained in more detail that Grant was not allowed to mention the Constitution during voir dire, opening remarks, direct testimony, or closing arguments. Grant stated he still did not understand the order, at which time Patterson grew visibly irritated. Patterson cautioned Grant that he was, "treading on dangerous ground," threatened sanctions, and then recessed the trial for lunch.

The jury was selected and testimony commenced that afternoon. The arresting officers testified that in their opinion Stanley was not a threat, and that he was cooperative during the arrest. Testifying on his own behalf, Mr. Stanley said the reason for his action was to exercise his constitutionally protected right of self-defense. The trial was recessed shortly after 5 pm.

The court reconvened on Friday morning. Jury instructions were proposed. Mr. Grant made several motions about the wording of the jury instructions, all of which were denied by Patterson. Grant also presented several affirmative defenses for Stanley's actions, including citing a Colorado Supreme Court precedent. The judge denied those motions as well, stating that the Colorado Supreme Court instructions, the Colorado Constitution, and the Federal Constitution did not apply citing Denver's status as a "home rule city".

The jury was called and closing arguments were presented. The prosecution argued that Stanley had no need to defend himself that day. Paul Grant emphasized the fact that Rick had not acted with criminal intent; and that he went to Veterans Park to "assert his rights, and to defend the rights of all the citizens of Colorado." The jury deliberated for about an hour, then returned with a guilty verdict.

Duncan Philp was convicted in a similar trial on May 29, 2002. Judge Mary Celeste also ordered that the Constitution could not even be mentioned. Philp characterized the whole thing as a "charade."

Afterwards, Paul Grant said he is confident about winning new trials, and possibly gaining an acquittal for Rick Stanley. Both judges "ignored the state and federal constitutions, and disregarded clear directions from the Colorado Supreme Court." Grant is confident he will find an appellate court to overturn both of these "terribly wrong convictions." Grant also thinks a

"(Judge) Patterson... issued an order in the case directing him not to mention the U.S. Constitution, or the Colorado constitution, during the trial."

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Kangaroo Court (concluded)

higher court will rule the Denver ordinance unconstitutional at some point during the appeals.

Stanley and Philp, face separate sentencing hearings in July with possible penalties of up to 1 year in jail, and fines up to \$999.00 -- the maximum allowed for a misdemeanor conviction. Stanley will appear in courtroom 151P at 8:00 AM on July 25. Mr. Philp will be sentenced in courtroom 150F on July 12. The Denver courthouse is located at 1437 Bannock Street in Denver, Colorado.

Paul Grant estimates the near-term appeal costs for both men at \$5,000 - \$6,000. Mr. Grant has reduced his fees for their defense, which could take upwards of two to three years' time and may include a trip to federal court. Both Stanley and Philp will most likely remain free during their appeals, although each may be required to post bond.

Mr. Grant also said, "Supporters of constitutional liberty can support Rick and Duncan by contributing to the costs of their appeals. These two men have risked their liberty. It would be great to see all their financial expenses covered by contributors." Donations for the cost of their defense should be sent with checks payable to Paul Grant, PO Box 2720, Parker, CO 80134. Contributors are asked to include a note stating the money is to be used for the Stanley/Philp defense fund.

—report by Michelle Konieczny

Support the Colorado Libertarian of the Year Award!

The LPCO Awards banquet is on August 17 this year. Every year, the Party presents the Ptak Libertarian of the Year award to one of the members of the party who has done an outstanding job over the past year.

Last year, the board selected the recipient of that award. This year, the members of the party should have that opportunity.

If you know someone that deserves this award, please nominate that Friend of Liberty. Nominations can be mailed in to me at the Party headquarters, e-mailed to me at information@lpcolorado.org, or called in to me at 303-680-1741. Each nomination should include the member's name, a brief biography of that person, and the reason for the nomination. Nominations will close at the end of June. Once the nominations have closed, the nominees will be listed on the web site and published in the July *Liberty*. Votes will be submitted to me in the same manner, and voting will close at the end of July.

—Special Report
by Margaret Alia Denny
Information Director

Changing "Liberty"

On June 11th the new Board of Directors of the Libertarian Party of Colorado met for it's monthly meeting. At that meeting a pair of motions were put forward that will change the way this publication, the Colorado Liberty, will be distributed, and created a new publication to be produced by the party.

Currently an estimated 25% of the registered party members are also either dues paying members or paid subscribers to the Colorado Liberty. This 25% is carrying the burden of 100% of the monthly publication and distribution costs of the publication. For that reason John Berntson, State Chair, requested a change be made.

After some heated discussion the decision was made that after the July issue (next month's edition) of the Colorado Liberty is published and mailed, changes will go into effect on who receives the Liberty.

Summary of changes and options:

PAID LPCO members will continue to receive the Liberty on a MONTHLY basis. Additionally any registered member who has paid specifically for a subscription to the Colorado Liberty will continue to receive it monthly. "Friends of the LPCO" will continue to receive the monthly publication.

Registered (unpaid) members will no longer receive the Liberty after the July issue. The Liberty will still be made available through the LPCO web site in PDF or HTML format.

If paid LPCO members would like to help the party out financially they may "opt-out" of receiving the printed and mailed edition in favor of retrieving the online version. To "opt-out" of the physical mailing please Information Director Margaret Alia Denny or Publications Director Jim Vance.

A new quarterly publication will be produced and sent out to all general registered members (those who are not dues paying members of the party or paid subscribers to the Liberty).

The new publication will be issued quarterly soon after the party receives its quarterly updates of registered members from the Secretary of State's office, with the premier publication likely being in the July time frame. This publication's layout, format, and content is currently being crafted by the Publications Director Jim Vance with the help of the Outreach Director and Joe Johnson.

"Stanley and Philp, face separate sentencing hearings in July with possible penalties of up to 1 year in jail, and fines up to \$999.00..."

What a Libertarian Secretary of State can do for the Party.

6

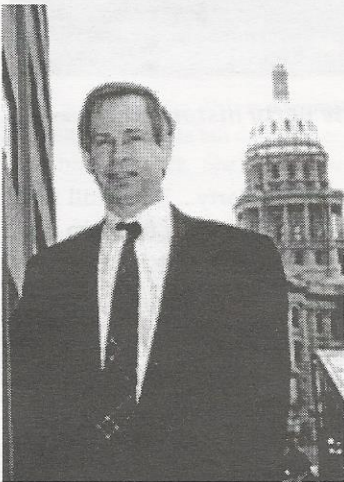
One of the offices up for election this November is Secretary of State (SOS). This statewide office has almost no direct impact on legislation about political issues such as guns, drugs, property rights and the like, but it can, and does, have an important effect on the elections process, including initiatives.

The SOS has three main functions: Elections, Business/Corporations, and Licensing. This column will focus on reforms in the elections area. There are a number of things the Secretary of State can do to improve our system of voting and level the playing field for minor parties.

Voting System Reforms

Our voting system could use the following four reforms:

To reduce the possibility of voter fraud and mistakes, the SOS can ask the legislature to include "None of the Above" as a choice in all candidate races and issue questions. Voters will no longer have to leave their ballot blank, to be marked by someone else.



The SOS could establish a requirement for mail ballot elections that voters should be notified their ballots were received by the Elections Department. If a ballot was rejected, the voter should be given the reason. Statistics on reject rates and errors should give us some idea as to whether the system needs reforming.

The complete entire process of counting and processing mail ballots should be observed by at least two members of the public and a report filed with the SOS about the integrity of the process, with this report made and be made available to the public. This will give us some basis for determining what, if any, reforms are needed for mail balloting.

A personal pet peeve of mine is to remove social security numbers from the voter registration file. I fail to see what legitimate need the SOS has for your social security number.

Leveling the Playing Field

Several reforms are necessary to level the playing field for minor parties.

The first is to require that voter registration systems used by counties be capable of accepting party registrations for all political parties and qualified political

organizations. I've had reports that 10 or 11 counties in Colorado are not capable of this and, as a result, some voters have been disenfranchised by having their voter registrations changed to unaffiliated.

Second, form letters and instructions for voters should be updated to reflect the fact that minor parties are now a fact of life. Recent events in Larimer County, where a Libertarian was told he/she had to change party affiliation to vote in the primary, suggest that this is not the case. The form letter used was an accurate, but incomplete, description of the situation; this led to confusion and misunderstanding.

Third, county clerks and their employees should be trained to treat minor party voters with the same level of courtesy and respect that they do major party voters. We've had numerous cases where voter registrations have been altered against the voter's intent, and this must stop. This is a violation of the voter's First and Fourteenth Amendment rights and should be prosecuted to fullest extent of the law. If necessary, and assuming it's the proper venue, I will ask the State Attorney General to deal with these issues.

The voter registration form currently does not list minor political parties. The Libertarian Party has been working with other minor parties through the Colorado Coalition of Independent Political Parties to get this issue resolved. After discussion with the Secretary of State, the major obstacle seems to be finding the necessary \$100,000 for the Department of Motor Vehicles to change its computer system. About 70% of voter registrations come through the DMV.

Initiatives

The initiative process is another area where the Secretary of State can have a significant impact. The SOS deals with initiatives in two areas, title setting and petition signature verification.

Title setting determines the wording of the description of the initiative that will appear on the ballot. The SOS can ensure that the process is not unduly restrictive for each and every ballot initiative, not just those perceived to be favored by some faction or another.

The process of petition signature verification has been altered for the worse over the last 10 years or so. However, the SOS can mitigate the impact somewhat by seeing that the validation process gives the benefit of the doubt to the petition signer and circulator.

Some of these reforms will have to be enacted by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor; others may be implemented by executive order. In either case, if elected, I plan to pursue these reforms with diligence.

— editorial by David Aitken

"The first is to require that voter registration systems used by counties be capable of accepting party registrations for all political parties..."

"But some Libertarian Party members wanted to override that law and mandate that to be a candidate, one must be a party member for only 90 days to be eligible for nomination."



Contested races draw in a record crowd and marks the first primary in state party history at the 2002 Convention

Bob Ewgen's May 18th editorial stated that, "Libertarians are Colorado's only true third party... They still face long odds. But win or lose, these Sons and Daughters of Liberty are already bringing the fresh air of freedom into the dreary atmosphere of politics as usual."

Ewgen failed to call attention to the important fact that this year's business meeting was the first time in the Libertarian Party of Colorado's history there was an official primary. Legitimate candidates were contesting for the party's nomination for a particular ballot spot.

In this first experiment at primaries, there were four candidates competing for two positions. Rick Stanley and Steve D'Ippolito for US Senate (scheduled to compete against incumbent Republican Wayne Allard and most likely Democrat Tom Strickland), and Ralph Shnelvar and James Vance for Governor (scheduled to compete against incumbent Republican Bill Owens and most likely political newcomer Rollie Heath).

But before the nominations could get under way there was other business to be taken care of, at the business meeting. First on the agenda, after approving the agenda and the rules for the primary, was introduction of new bylaws or constitutional amendments for discussion, amendment, and then a vote. The first bylaw suggestion was one that has come up in the past.

Under current law, because there is no bylaw to override it, to be a candidate for the Libertarian Party of Colorado (or any other "minor" party for that matter) one has to be a member of that party, for a full 12 months. But some Libertarian Party members wanted to override that law and mandate that to be a candidate, one must be a party member for only 90 days to be eligible for nomination. This proposal sparked a tremendous amount of debate among the attendees. Questions arose as to whether we really needed this rule. Would we potentially face a lawsuit from the Democrats and Republicans over some of our choices in spite of this rule? Should the time period be longer than 90 days? Shorter? Is the wording as clean as it ought to be? Where should this new rule fit within the existing framework of our constitution and bylaws?

When all the arguments were hashed out and the amendments either approved or rejected, a vote put to the floor. The following became the newest bylaw for the state party, officially Article IX: "All candidates for public office must be registered members of the party for 60 days prior to the last date on which the party can file its certificate

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of designation with the appropriate election official."

Several other bylaw concepts were put forward, including one by Ralph Shnelvar that suggested individuals had to be registered members of the party for at least 12 months to be eligible to vote in the business meeting in 2003 and beyond. The justification for the proposal seemed to be a concern that solid results in the upcoming November elections would motivate Republicans and/or Democrats to join the party in an attempt to "take it over" and to prevent candidate "stacking" of the business meeting with new party recruits. The bylaw suggestion was rejected after limited amount of discussion, which concentrated on our party needing to remain open to new members rather than be an "elitist club," as one member put it.

After the bylaws and constitutional amendment phase of the business meeting was concluded, John Berntson called for a brief break before the "real fun" was to begin - the nominations.

After 10 minutes the meeting was called back to order. Immediately David Bryant called for an amendment to the order of business that specified voting on the positions of US Senate and Governor before the county positions. Bryant wanted to have the order reversed, making the vote for US Senate last before the board elections would take place. The attendees of the business meeting agreed with the change in order, and the motion passed. County seat nominations would start off the first primary the Libertarian Party of Colorado has ever held.

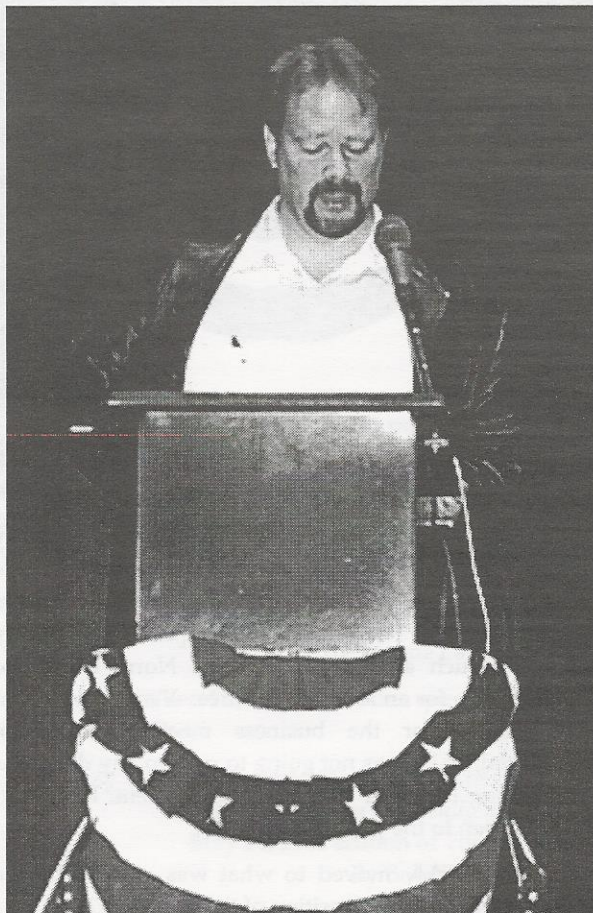
The first nomination was for the venerable and highly respected Sheriff Bill Masters of San Miguel County, also the keynote speaker of that evening's banquet. Without opposition, most of the nominations were run through rather quickly. Some notable nominations included John Gurley for Sheriff of Mesa County, S. Elke Glazer for Jefferson County Coroner, Larry Hamilton for House District 45, Mark Holden for District 38, W. Earl Allen for District 33, and Steve Gresh for District 20. Other nominations included David Aitken for Secretary of State, Gaar Potter for State Treasurer, Dwight Harding for Attorney General, Adam Katz for US Congressional District 6, and Biff Baker in what looks to be a heated and very winnable race for US Congressional District 5.

Finally the "moment of truth" was at hand, the first contested position in the state party's history. The nomination for the gubernatorial race. Relative newcomer to the party James Vance, 31, from Littleton, had been running a campaign for the last 12 months. His first opponent was Bob Glass, who dropped out at the beginning of 2002. Boulderite Ralph Shnelvar, 51,

then began his race immediately after Glass removed himself.

The rules were set for this portion of the business meeting as well. Each candidate would name one person to speak on his behalf for a maximum of three minutes before the secret vote would take place. Ralph Shnelvar went first with his running mate Desiree Hickson speaking for him. Jim Vance had originally arranged to have Gregg "Uncle Nasty" Stone speak on his behalf, but due to a traffic jam at the Eisenhower tunnel, Gregg was unable to arrive in time. Mr. Vance turned to one of his senior campaign team members, Margaret Alia Denny, to speak for him. Finally Jeff Wright spoke on behalf of the always present, and this time called-upon "None of the Above" marker. Jeff highlighted that perhaps neither candidate was truly prepared to carry the torch of the Libertarian Party into the November elections because each possessed a quality the other did not. That missing blend made both inappropriate for the nomination. All speeches came in under the three minute marker, and at the close of Mr. Wright's speech, the ballots were handed out.

(Continued on Page 9)



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Two observers per candidate, as well as each candidate, oversaw counting of the ballots to ensure it was fair and accurate. No dangling or dimpled "chads" would transpire in this race, especially since there were no "chads" to dimple or dangle. With six different spellings of Ralph Shnelvar's last name recorded mentally by one of Vance's observation team, the final count was reported to the business meeting crowd. Ralph Shnelvar had won the first of the two primaries to be held, and the party's nomination for the gubernatorial ballot spot, with 92 votes in his favor. There were 41 votes for Vance, with 11 going to None Of The Above.

"A few minutes later the count came back as: 65 for D'Ippolito, 63 for Stanley, and 19 for None of the Above... NOTA was out of the race."



While Shnelvar received a number of congratulatory comments, handshakes and nods of support, Vance settled in for a series of condolences from supporters and observers. There were also requests from party members such as Joe Johnson and Norm Olsen for Vance to run for an alternative office. Vance stated that his "plans" for the business meeting were not completed, so he was not going to rush to any decisions on running for other offices at the moment. However, he was open to the possibilities.

The vote quickly moved to what was seen to be the even hotter contested position of the day, the US

Senator nomination. Rick Stanley, the charismatic and often controversial candidate who had begun his campaign about the same time Vance had started his, was facing a long-time LPCO member but newcomer to the candidacy race, Steve D'Ippolito. The last six weeks saw the two exchanging shots about campaigning style and personality, and now the arguments were going to be settled by a vote.

Again, each candidate was permitted to choose a designee to speak on his behalf. David Bryant spoke on behalf of Rick Stanley. He reviewed statistics showing Stanley's attention in the media and on the web, compared to D'Ippolito's all but total lack of presence. State Chair John Berntson called Bryant for reaching his allotted three minutes time. Former state chair and gubernatorial candidate Sandra Johnson was chosen to speak for Steven D'Ippolito. "Vote for Steve," she said, "... he won't embarrass you the way Rick Stanley has." Before Sandra had left the stage, Jeff Wright was on his way down the aisle to make his None of the Above presentation. Again, Wright called for the NOTA vote based on the wide divergence between the two candidates, making neither of them worthy of the nomination in the end. As the ballots began their distribution to the participating LPCO members, it was discovered the Shnelvar-Vance contest had used too many of the ballots. There weren't enough for everyone. David Aitken, the official Parliamentary Chairman of the business meeting, was busily chopping up more pieces of paper to use as ballots. Once all ballots were distributed, the vote was taken. Again the observers gathered, with Aitken to watch the count and D'Ippolito heading back to the counting table. Stanley stayed his ground and socialized with those in the immediate area.

A few minutes later the count came back as: 65 for D'Ippolito, 63 for Stanley, and 19 for None of the Above. Since the primary rules previously passed stated that someone had to win at least 51% of the popular vote, it was going to be a runoff. NOTA was out of the race.

Before John Berntson could call for the second vote the former NOTA representative Jeff Wright petitioned for the candidates themselves to speak before the next vote. Setting aside his primary rules, Berntson gave each candidate five minutes to speak. Steve D'Ippolito walked to the podium first. Quickly gaining his composure he said, "Vote for me; I will work to legalize marijuana."

Rick Stanley, dressed in a suit rather than one of his trademark "Hawaiian" print shirts then came to the podium.

(Continued on Page 10)

"I am here to be your champion," he began. "I am asking for your nomination so I can do battle with the Democrats and the Republicans. For 150 years they have been destroying our country with thousands of unconstitutional laws. I will defeat them in the election, and I will defeat them on the floor of the senate. I will be tireless in the fight for freedom. Thank you for your support," he concluded.

Ballots were distributed for the second round of voting. Back at the table, Aitken counted again as the group around the counting table grew larger. In the main area of the business meeting James Vance and Ralph Shnelvar both sat and spoke about future plans. Vance expressed his willingness to help Shnelvar rebuild his website and assist where he could. As Vance and Shnelvar "worked the room," Vance was approached again about a variety of positions to run for. These included creating a "tag-team" effort between Biff Baker and James Vance running in Congressional Districts 5 & 6 respectively.

However, to accomplish this, Adam Katz would need to step down; he had already accepted the nomination for District 6. Ralph Shnelvar, knowing Katz better than the others, approached him on Vance and Baker's behalf. Katz stated he was unwilling to step down because he had already run a large quantity of flyers and materials for distribution in his race. Vance easily accepted the decision and fielded other ideas while the final count was being prepared in the back on the D'Ippolito-Stanley runoff.

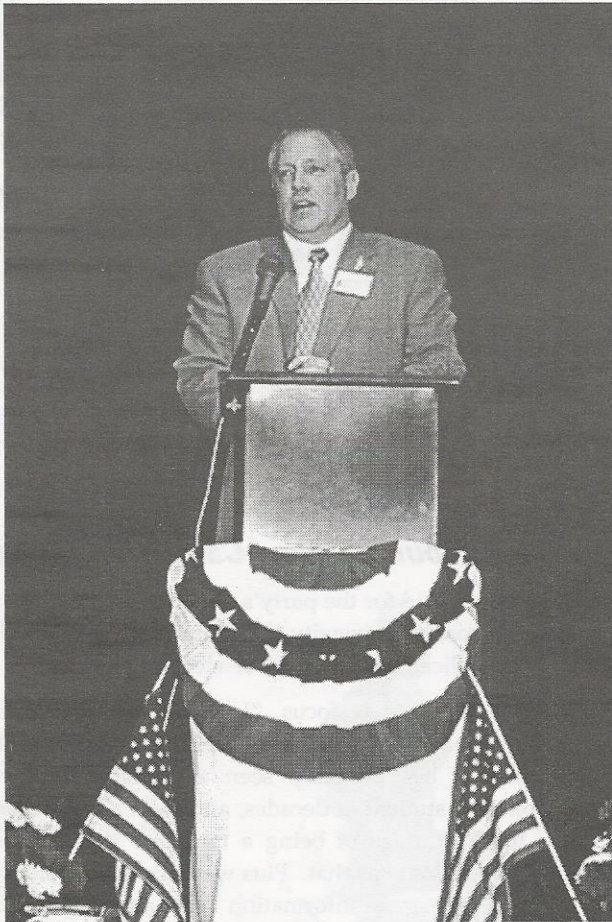
The final tally was announced by David Aitken: 78 for Stanley and 67 for D'Ippolito. Rick Stanley had won the nomination to be the 2002 US Senate candidate for the Libertarian Party of Colorado. The crowd reacted in a number of different ways, with some signs of relief, some of disbelief, and some of doubt. Stanley himself looked tremendously relieved. D'Ippolito had the appearance of frustration but acceptance of the outcome. Stanley and D'Ippolito shook hands immediately after the count was announced.

Business for the meeting was not yet concluded, however. Despite running over the originally scheduled time frame, the meeting continued; the members of the State Board had to be decided upon.

Moving quickly to get the nominations rolling along, John Bertson stepped down from the first vote, as he was a candidate for State Chair and could not conduct the meeting while simultaneously being up for re-election. Norm Olsen temporarily chaired the meeting while Berntson faced Michael McKinzie as a competitor for the Board Chair position. Berntson won the vote and remained the party chair for another year.

Two positions went uncontested. Norm Olsen returned as Campaign Director, and Gaar Potter remained Treasurer for another year.

David Bryant opted to step down from his Information Director position. A briefly contested race was held between Vance for Governor senior campaign staff member Margaret Alia Denny and Lloyd Sweeney, in which Denny won the position. Judd Ptak was replaced by Floyd Bilderback as Legislative Director. Richard Combs stepped down as Publications Director and nominated Jim Vance for the position, which went uncontested. The Fundraising Director position went



"The final tally was announced by David Aitken: 78 for Stanley and 67 for D'Ippolito. Rick Stanley had won the nomination to be the 2002 US Senate candidate for the Libertarian Party of Colorado."

unfilled as Shawn Elke Glazer stepped down.

While attendance at the Saturday evening banquet numbered 180, a record for the a Libertarian Party of Colorado convention, the business meeting had a much larger crowd. It numbered possibly 300 or more, voting on the various issues of the business meeting.

By the close of the business meeting it was obvious this was going to be a convention to remember -- and the banquet was still several hours away! With exciting debate, two hotly contested races, and solid attendance, the 2002 convention was undoubtedly the best this rapidly growing party has yet sponsored.

"Taste of Marijuana 2" Festival a Cash Crop of Registrations

"...the net results were tremendous with 131 new voter registrants and party affiliation changes during the course of the seven hour event."

The rescheduled June 1st "Taste of Marijuana" Festival organized by marijuana legalization activist Ken Gorman and supported by LPCO members and candidates didn't quite yield the turnout all had hoped for. But the net results were tremendous, with 131 new voter registrants and party affiliation changes during the course of the seven-hour event.

Attendance was around 800 participants through the course of the event. Both candidate and non-candidate members of the party spoke during breaks between bands. Ralph Shnelvar, Rick Stanley, Biff Baker, Desiree Hickson, Jim Vance, Keith Hamburger, Steve D'Ippolito, David Bryant, Ron Bain, and others took to the microphone to spread the word of the unified cause, legalization of marijuana in Colorado.

Also working to make the event a success for the LPCO were people like the new Outreach Director Michael McKinzie, that tireless salesman of liberty Joe Johnson, Rand Fanshier, John O'Brien, John Berntson, Fred Boucher, Jason Zimring and Robert Rapplean. Robert authored an automated voter registration form that can be utilized at any outreach event to help expedite affiliation change and first time registration efforts.

Vance Announces New Campaign Effort

After losing his bid for the party's gubernatorial nomination, Jim Vance on May 22nd announced his intention to run for the post of University of Colorado (CU) Regent in Congressional district 6. Incumbent Regent Norwood Roth, a Republican, will not seek re-election this year.

Vance said of his new focus, "I think this is a completely winnable race. The Republican offerings are clones of each other; neither has probably seen the inside of a college classroom as a student in decades, and from a PR perspective, I have the advantage of being a two-time graduate of CU. Neither Republican has that. Plus we have the advantage that of my coming from an Information Technologies background. The incumbent is part of the Governor's feasibility study on the Colorado Institute of Technology. Who better to replace him than someone from the IT industry?"

When asked whether he had any plans for future major election races Vance stated "...Right now I plan on concentrating first on being Publications Director and running for Regent, hopefully combining efforts with Flux Neo in District 2. I'm perfectly happy in helping make the publications that come out of the LPCO even better, helping the party wherever I can, and helping the other candidates kick serious status quo butt over the months leading up to the November 2002 election."



House Bill 1404 SIGNED INTO LAW!

On Friday, May 31st, Bill Owens did something right for the protection of Colorado citizens' property rights. In an uncharacteristic move, defying pressure put on him by both the police and prosecutors, who actively fought the passage of the measure, Owens signed into law the asset forfeiture reform law, aka House Bill 1404.

This was a tremendous victory for the libertarian cause and the Libertarian Party of Colorado. The efforts put forth by a number of Libertarian activists like Ari Armstrong paid off with the Governor's signature on the bill. Opponents claimed the bill becoming law would cripple the abilities of the law enforcement and prosecutorial communities to fight crime, because one of their major deterrents would be removed out from under them. But the Libertarian activists told it like it was—illegal seizure before prosecution of citizens property.

They illustrated occurrences where the police would use seized property for stings even before the person from whom the property was taken ever went on trial. They explained the police agencies were typically not reporting what assets they seized, sometimes allowing assets to mysteriously disappear or be used for personal appropriation by officers. They showed the public how the citizens exonerated of the accusations against them would find it incredibly difficult to restore their rightful property. Their examples, framed in an easy-to-grasp and thought-provoking manner, raised enough public awareness of the bill and the issue that the pressure for its passage moved out of the libertarian-oriented think tanks and the Party itself to the general public through letters to the editors of the major papers across Colorado, and more.

The new law takes effect July 1.

"Ladies of Liberty" Strike a Pose

Several Colorado women have joined together to create a Libertarian calendar. This 16-month "Ladies for Liberty" calendar (9/02 - 12/03) features women in shots that speak to issues that are important to Libertarians. The calendar idea was conceived by BetteRose (Smith) Ryan after seeing a calendar created by a women's group in England. "This calendar was done by English women to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation. It was full of tastefully covered "nudes" who were all older women. It raised over \$50,000, for charity. I wondered if we could raise money doing something similar. Our calendar has much younger women in it, and I hope people find it just as tasteful."

The issues in the calendar include gun rights, the draft, social security, banned books, and the environment. Annotations have been added to the calendar to give examples of where and when freedom has been limited or expanded, as well as a few other items of interest, such as a 1644 UFO sighting causing Bostonians to be perplexed.

The calendar was created to raise money for the Libertarian Party and for candidates. Victory In Colorado Now is creating the calendar, which can only be given away as premiums for donations. The profits will go to help Libertarian candidates. Also, candidates and affiliates can get calendars to use as fundraisers. "The idea is to help all levels of the Libertarian organization raise money to promote libertarian ideals. We hope that the calendar itself will encourage libertarian thinking among the general population as well," said BetteRose.

Most of the pictures were taken by Robert Lucy, who has done some outstanding work. The annotations within the calendar were researched by Tony and BetteRose Ryan. The set designs were conceived by several of the ladies, created by Michele Poague, and put together by Michele, Bette Rose and Elizabeth Bennett. All the formatting for the calendar was done by Michele, and the printing of the calendar will be done by Quality Press.

Want to get one of these calendars? Donate \$10 or more to Victory in Colorado Now, and you will receive a calendar. Mail your donation to VICN c/o Ryan; 10063 C Grove Ct.; Westminster, CO 80031. Make the check payable to Victory in Colorado Now. Need some calendars to give as premiums at your outreach booth? Contact BetteRose Ryan at: betterose@aol.com.

The issues in the calendar include gun rights, the draft, social security, banned books, and the environment.



Sheri Folsom poses for a "Social Security" photo for the "Ladies of Liberty" calendar.

—BetteRose Ryan

National Membership Statistics Down

On June 5th, Joe Dehn of the National Libertarian Party releases some national statistics on membership numbers that illustrated a generally declining trend in dues-paying memberships for the party.

The following is a summation of his report:

National Libertarian Party Membership Statistics —
Statistics as of 31 May 2002

Total dues-paying members in areas with affiliate parties lists at 25,757, with an overall density of 90.4 members per million population.

The national statistics showed a downturn in overall party membership (of dues-paying members). These numbers do not necessarily represent the actual number of registrants of the party, just the dues paying members.

Growth	%Growth	Growth/pop
Change since: Four years ago (31May1998)		
-470	-1.8	-1.7
Change since: Record high (30Nov1999)		
-7738	-23.1	-27.2
Change since: Last convention (30Jun2000)		
-6498	-20.1	-22.8
Change since: Last pres. election (31Oct2000)		
-7014	-21.4	-24.6
Change since: Beginning of year (31Dec2001)		
-1974	-7.1	-6.9
Change since: 30 April 2002 (one month)		
-185	-0.7	-0.6

Here are some of the Colorado-specific statistics from the National report:

Ranking among the states:

(growth since 30 April 2002 [one month])

Number: 727 (13th)

Density: 164.6 (5th)

#Growth: -1 (16th)

%Growth: -0.1 (16th)

Growth/pop: -0.2 (17th)

These statistics illustrate why the Libertarian Party desperately needs YOU to do more than register—we need you to become a dues-paying member. Statistics like these are what the Republicans and Democrats like to use to claim we are a shrinking party, when we all know this is not true. PLEASE become a dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party. If the \$25.00 annual contribution is unaffordable at this time, at least pay for your subscription to the Liberty, a mere \$12.00 a year. That is a full year's subscription of the Liberty delivered for only \$1.00 each!

So What?

In a press release issued on June 4th the new Public Information Director Mike Seebeck issued the following press release answering the plethora of press surrounding the Democrat and Republican party assemblies held over the weekend of June 1st and 2nd:

The Democrats and Republicans held their party assemblies this past weekend, nominating their usual collection of sellouts and party yes-men to further their assaults on our freedoms.

"So what?!?" asks the Libertarian Party of Colorado.

"The Tweedle-D's and Tweedle-R's are doing their usual doublespeak with no walk to go with their talk," remarked John Berntson, Chairman for the Libertarian Party of Colorado.

"These candidates are more of the tired, same-old same-old, with no new ideas, no concept of serving the people, and no intention of effecting any positive change," said Berntson. "They have sold out We the People and our birthright of freedom, only caring about their own power and their own donkey-and-elephant show."

Pointed out Berntson, "Look at the Republicans—they sold us out on DHS reform. Owens sold us out on Amendment 22. Look at the Democrats—they sold us out on concealed-carry. Both of them would have sold out the people on civil asset forfeiture reform if not for the public pressure instigated by the Libertarian Party."

Berntson reserves extra criticism for the Republicans: "Not a single bill in the legislature this past session--877 in all--repealed any laws, and no budget proposed by either party has had a pure reduction in state spending--only increases. Yet here are Republicans claiming our Libertarian platform of 'limited government.' Yeah, right," continued Berntson. "Show We the People consistent actual reductions in governments and we'll be impressed. Until then we challenge the Republicans in the legislature and the governor's office to quit taking and wasting our money."

"The same holds true for the Democrats. They are no better and no worse, only more of the same old lies and empty promises."

The Libertarian Party of Colorado is the only alternative to the authoritarian Democrats and Republicans, and the only way We the People will restore their freedoms. They ask for We the People's vote in November to effect positive change and real reform in the state and federal governments, by actually cutting their size and scope.

"Both of them would have sold out the people on civil asset forfeiture reform if not for the public pressure instigated by the Libertarian Party."

Two on the WOD in one day in Rocky Mountain News

Letters to the Editor
June 10, 2002
Rocky Mountain News

Drug war advocate's arguments are shallow

In his Speakout column of June 3, "War on Drugs should not be abandoned," Richard Stacy refuses to recognize facts while daring "anyone . . . to prove otherwise" in his ill-founded argument to continue the failed drug prohibition experiment.

Stacy states ". . . alcohol lands more people in jail than all other drugs combined," despite the clearly documented fact that there are currently more people in federal prisons for drug offenses than all other crimes combined!

To prove just how shallow the prohibitionist argument really is, he then implies that we would suddenly have surgeons operating and pilots flying while high on dope if we ended drug prohibition, as if we currently suffer from drunken doctors and pilots because of the end of alcohol prohibition.

Lastly, he mentions Brittney Chambers' death from Ecstasy. Did he suddenly forget that Ecstasy is already illegal? Would making it "double illegal" bring Brittney back to life? He failed to mention of course, that Ismael Mena would be alive today if we had ended drug prohibition and its concomitant no-knock raids.

Joseph Johnson
Chairman, Libertarian Party of Boulder County
Lafayette

Insulting assertions

I am disheartened at how our "drug warriors" spread misinformation and scare tactics in their attempts to justify our nation's failed drug policies. (Richard Stacy's "War on Drugs should not be abandoned," Speakout, June 3).

The author states that any deviation from our current policies would lead "millions of nonusing Americans" to start "using those drugs." There is not one shred of evidence to support his statement. The assertion that a "surgeon" might shoot "a little heroin or crank" before fixing your busted ski knee defies logic and is an insult to people who take these issues seriously.

Stacy "dares" us to prove that alternatives to prohibition work. Fair enough, just look at the research from the Dutch and Swiss governments. Lower crime, less drug use, and healthier citizens should be proof enough. Americans deserve no less.

Matthew Baker
Conifer

"Did he suddenly forget that Ecstasy is already illegal? Would making it 'double illegal' bring Brittney back to life?"

Press Bytes—Selected Clippings *Libertarians Take a Stand!*

"Libertarians, however, take the only true stand in defense of diversity, tolerance, youth, peace and optimized liberty. Although so-called "pro-family" politics are often associated with the religious right, it's the Libertarian platform that stands to strengthen the American family-and it does so without clubbing the public over the head with religion. Many Libertarians respect religion, and understand that it thrives in a culture of liberty. They do not, however, wish to serve it up as a government product or mandate."

From *Wayne's Word: High on Liberty*
May 24-31, 2002 edition of The Boulder Weekly
By Wayne Laugesen, Editor

Shnelvar is one of the most eloquent men I've ever met in local politics. When I asked the routine question: "Why are you running for governor?" he answered:

"I'm doing it because of my children. I have two daughters and I truly fear for the world that they will be living in."

From *The thin but heady air of liberty*
May 18, 2002 edition of The Denver Post
By Bob Ewegen, editorial

Beginning this issue the Colorado Liberty will proudly bring you a different sort of opportunity to get to know our plethora of candidates through a series of not necessarily political questions. Personality as much as politics make a good candidate, and we all know how many candidates from those other parties totally lack anything resembling personality. So without further ado here is the first set of candidates answering our first set of questions—Rick Stanley for US Senate, Biff Baker for US House of Representatives, Ralph Shnelvar for Governor and Desiree Hickson for Lt. Governor:

Question 1: Why are you running for your office of nomination?

Rick: To win the election, to restore respect for the Constitution in Washington, DC, and to blow those lily-livered Democrat and Republican traitors to kingdom come.

Biff: I see our social and economic freedoms eroding with every passing day. The Bill of Rights is often ignored by the three branches of government.

Ralph: I'm doing it because of my children. I have two daughters and I truly fear for the world that they will be living in. In 1902, Germany was one of the freest countries in the world and one where Jews were well treated. Within a few decades, my mother and father were slave laborers in Nazi concentration camps. They both survived, but they each lost every other member of their families. I don't think the United States is going to go particularly after Jews. But there's going to be some scapegoat - gun owners, drug users, people who watch pornography on their computers. We're on that slippery slope and it doesn't take that long to hit bottom.

Desiree: I'm running to put myself out of a job. If Ralph Shnelvar and I get elected, I plan to work with the Legislature to put a question on the ballot whether or not to add an amendment to the state constitution that would eliminate the Lt. Governor seat.

Question 2: What is your opponent's' single biggest "weak spot" in this campaign?

Rick: Their total contempt for the Constitution of the United States, and for the ordinary people who live here.

Biff: Joel Hefley's weakest point is that he has failed to keep his campaign promises and has failed to adhere to his oath of office.

Ralph: Governor Owen's lied to his various constituencies about the promises he will keep: his written pledge never to approve more taxes; his backstabbing of gun owners on Amendment 22.

Desiree: No opponent to date for Lt. Governor!

Question 3: What is your single favorite movie of the last 5 years; and what's the last movie you saw you absolutely hated?

Rick: Favorite: *The Patriot* with Mel Gibson. Worst: *Gossamer Park*.

Biff: My favorite movies are the "Stars Wars" episodes, because the characters represent freedom fighters against an oppressive government. I did not like "Pulp Fiction" because I could not find any positive social meaning from the movie.

Ralph: Loved Independence Day with Will Smith and Jeff Goldblum. Hated K-PAX.

Desiree: Castaway is my single favorite movie. It portrayed strength in adversity. I absolutely hated Battlefield Earth. Cool costumes, lousy script.

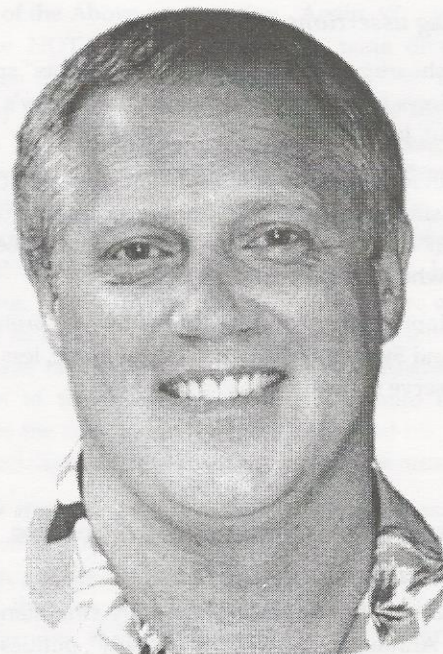
Question 4: How do you plan on answering the charge by non-urban dwellers during the course of your election that politics in Colorado remains "Denver/Metro-centric" and the rural areas' concerns are ignored?

Rick: By telling them that the Libertarian program of individual liberty, personal responsibility, and limited government is good for everybody. With respect for the Constitution restored, there will be no more giveaway programs. Power will flow back to the people, and to their local governments. And the perception that special and regional interests are running the government for the benefit of some at the expense of others will gradually fade away.

Biff: Mr. Hefley has ignored the rural areas and has concentrated on Colorado Springs. However, I have already driven to every city and town in US House District #5 - I will spend equal amounts of my time in each of six districts both before and after the election.

Ralph: I can't because it is true.

Desiree: At this time, I'd like to defer to Ralph on this one.



Libertarian Party Nominee for US Senate
Rick Stanley

Question 5: Who is your pre-20th century role model (personal and/or political)?

Rick: John Adams

Biff: John Stuart Mills wrote On Liberty (1859) and Utilitarianism (1861). He said that "to do as you would be done by, and to love your neighbor as yourself, constitute the ideal perfection of utilitarian morality."

Ralph: Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus, a Roman who was asked to save Rome, served, and gave up being Emperor after only 16 days.

Desiree: Harriet Tubman. Even today, there are very few

people, man or woman, who literally risk their life to fight against laws that oppress them. I should hope to aspire to a similar calling.

Question 6: Tell us what your single biggest character flaw is in your opinion in regards to your candidacy.

Rick: Impatience.

Biff: My flaw is also my strength. I was very honest and candid with Mr. Hefley when he stated that the US debt has been going down; I stated that government records show it has gone up every year that he has been in office.

Ralph: I have a hard time telling lies.

Desiree: My biggest flaw is my youth. Having my own business, being an Army wife, and the mother of three children, I believe I can handle whatever the job of Lt. Governor should toss my way. But, my youth may be a detractor to voters.

Question 7: Who is your 20th / 21st century role model (personal and/or political)?

Rick: Ron Paul.

Biff: In the political arena, Rev. Martin Luther King was my hero because, like Jesus Christ and Gandhi, he preached social change without resorting to violence. In the economic arena, Dr. Thomas Sowell is the most brilliant economist that I have ever read.

Ralph: Winston Churchill who saw the coming evil of Nazism, fought it, and won.

Desiree: Madonna. This is a woman who is always reinventing herself. She stands tall despite her mistakes and doesn't let her past hold her back. She keeps moving forward. I'm the same way.

Question 8: Who do you think should be in the White House in November 2000 – George W. Bush who won the Electoral College or Al Gore who appears to have won the popular vote when all was said and done?

Rick: Neither. Neither. Ruth Gordon, the old woman in a wheelchair who sent six security guards to the hospital when they tried to frisk her at the airport, should be in the White House.

Biff: In a Representative Democracy, we must adhere to the laws of the land – therefore Mr. Bush won based on the rules currently in place. If someone upholds the US Constitution, this is not even a debatable issue.

Ralph: “Should” implies morality. There are no moral issues here. We play by the rules. George Bush won by the rules.

Desiree: Al Gore. It has nothing to do with hanging “chads,” either. Al Gore was more forthcoming in how he intended to screw the voters. Bush is backdooring a lot of policy that many expected only a Democrat would do.

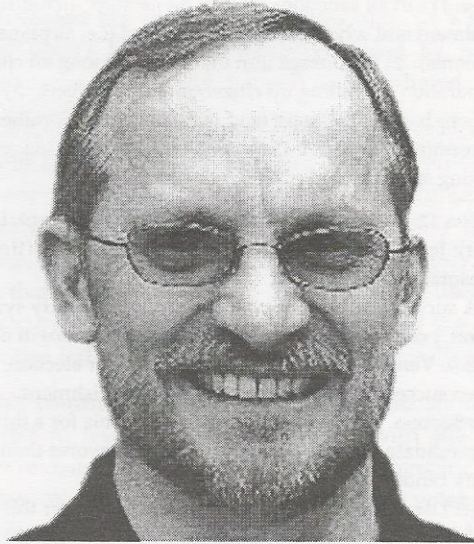
Question 9: Who is your favorite musician, band, or composer (living or dead, together or broken up, etc)?

Rick: The Beatles.

Biff: My tastes are eclectic because I enjoy Rock n’ Roll, Country, Jazz, R&B, and Christian Music. Santana and Eric Clapton are my favorites.

Ralph: The great Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninoff. Honest! The Beatles comes in a close second

Desiree: It's sort of embarrassing because he's so 70's, but I list Barry Manilow as one of my favorite musician/composers. In truth, I don't have a single favorite. Because I am a musician, my faves depend on the style of music.



Libertarian Parry Nominee for US House of Representatives in District 5 Biff Baker

Question 10: If you could have dinner with any one living person – who would it be and why?

Rick: My wife, Pam, because I love her very much.

Biff: I would like to have dinner with someone that has truly influenced America such as Dr. Joseph Juran, Philip B. Crosby, or Genichi Taguchi. All three gentlemen assisted significantly in the economic turn-around of American quality over the past 20 years.

Ralph: My wife. I do not get to spend enough time with my best friend.

Desiree: Michael Douglas. I'd like to hear his reasoning behind supporting gun control when 95% of the movies he's been in portray firearm usage on some level (self-defense, war, or violence) and he's usually the character wielding the gun. I'd like to hear him explain why this doesn't make him a hypocrite.

Question 11: What do you think the United States SHOULD be doing in reaction to the terrorist attacks of 9/11/01?

Rick: There should have been a constitutional declaration of war against the perpetrators, not the phony war powers act Congress actually coughed up. The American militia, which consists of the whole body of the people, should be allowed to carry the weapons of their own choice for self-defense purposes. And we should be disentangling ourselves from our alliance with Israel, and maintaining a stance of non-aggression and absolute neutrality in international affairs.

Biff: I wrote the operations plan for the Air Defense of North America on behalf of the Commander in Chief of North American Aerospace Defense Command back in 1996. I know what they should have done, but base closures and budget cuts from 1990 through present have prevented military leaders from fulfilling their sworn duties.

Ralph: Much more tracking of foreigners crossing our borders.. Much less internal policing that provide no additional security and inconveniences everyone.

"20 Questions" (continued)

Desiree: 1) Lift all sanctions on gun ownership, including concealment and where guns can be carried (i.e. airplanes, courtrooms). 2) Encourage gun ownership among all citizens in preparation for calling up citizen militia members. 3) Bring our troops back to the main land to protect the US, rather than other countries (England, Germany, et. Al) that no longer need protecting since the end of the Cold War.

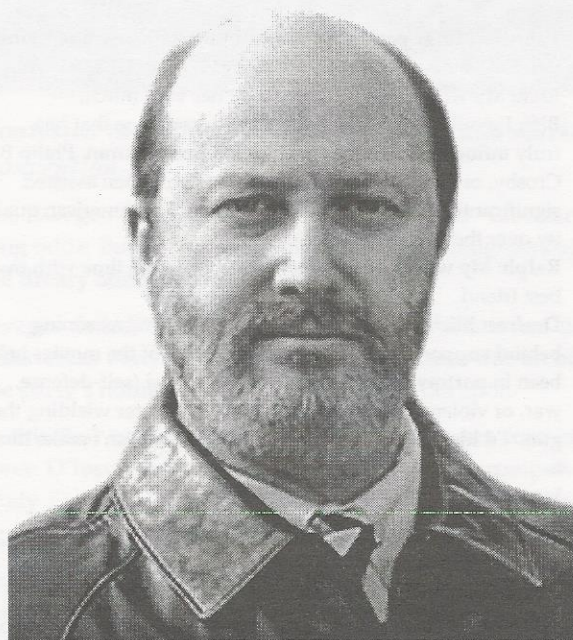
Question 12: Success or Failure (Both is not an acceptable answer): Jesse Ventura's tenure in the Governor's office of Minnesota? Why?

Rick: A success, because he challenged the two-party system, and won. I can't really comment on his performance in office.

Biff: Jesse Ventura was successful in his bid for election, and has been successful in "shaking up" the establishment.

Ralph: Success. He has shown that it is possible for a third-party candidate to run a state in a fashion no worse than a major party candidate.

Desiree: I don't have enough information to answer this question.



Libertarian Party Nominee for Governor
Ralph Shnelvar

Question 13: Do you have any plans to pursue a higher political office in the future should you win your election?

Rick: No.

Biff: Not at this time - I have no desire for "power", I just want to go to Congress to straighten out the mess that has been created by our elected officials. When Hefley took office 16 years ago the US Debt was \$1.4 trillion, today it is over \$6 trillion. Need I say more?

Ralph: I intend to go after real political power by running for the Boulder City Council.

Desiree: Yes. What, I don't know at this time.

Question 14: On the same track - if you lose your election, is the overall secondary goal of your campaign?

Rick: To force the repeal of all unconstitutional laws, and to restore our constitutional republic.

Biff: My primary goals are to restore ethics in government, balance the budget, reduce the debt, save social security, and protect individual freedom from an intrusive Federal bureaucracy. Getting elected is merely the means to accomplish this goal.

Ralph: Letting the electorate know that Libertarians are serious about winning public office.

Desiree: The overall secondary goal of my campaign is to grow the Libertarian party and educate the public about their true rights dictated by the Constitution not by the government bureaucracy.

Question 15: What is your position on the rather "under the radar" topic of cloning which raises its head from time to time in the press?

Rick: Every individual owns himself. If people want to perform experiments on their own bodies, let 'em. However, they must take personal responsibility for the consequences.

Biff: If anyone has faced a life threatening disease and watched a friend or family member waste-away, then they are most likely in favor of stem cell research. I am in favor of stem cell research, but would hate to see Saddam Hussein cloned. Ugh!

Ralph: It should absolutely be legal. If we find out in the future that there is some evil associated with it then the genie can be stuffed back into the bottle. Until then, science should be free to find cures and parents should be able to have the best children possible.

Desiree: It's a double-edged sword but I am for it. It shouldn't be taxpayer-funded, though.

Question 16: What do you think is one way the Columbine Tragedy could have been averted?

Rick: By enforcing the Constitution. Any person who wished to carry a weapon onto the school grounds for defensive purposes should have done so.

Biff: When I was a teenager, I lived in the poorest, most violent school in the south side of Chicago. Ninety percent of the families were on welfare, and my estimate is that 50% of the kids were involved in gangs. We had 12 police officers stationed in the High School to protect kids from other kids. Stationing police in the school is a bit extreme, but I believe that every teacher should be armed with and trained to use a non-lethal stun-gun. Parental involvement is the key to prevention.

Ralph: The JeffCo police were incompetent. There were more-than-adequate warnings. If police services were directed away from the war on drugs to the protection of citizens, then the Columbine tragedy would never had happened.

Desiree: Armed teachers.

Question 17: What is your favorite "future tense" science fiction genre television series (as in Star Trek, Babylon 5, etc.)?

Rick: Stargate SG-1.

Biff: Dark Angel.

Ralph: Star Trek: The Next Generation.

Desiree: Andromeda.



**Libertarian Party Nominees for Lt. Governor
Desiree Hickson**

Question 18: What do you see as the single most important issue not for the 2002 elections – but for 2004?

Rick: The same issue that's most important in every election. Will the people of America insist that we live in a constitutional republic and require their public servants to act that way? Or will the “sheeple” continue to be led down the primrose path?

Biff: When I went to West Point, integrity was their consistent theme. “Don’t lie, cheat, or steal”, yet we elect officials who do not keep their promises.

Ralph: With any luck, the populace will see just how destructive to our freedoms and ineffective in increasing our security that the USA-PATRIOT ACT has been. At minimum, legislators should be required to at least read the legislation that they are voting on.

Desiree: Domestic aka homeland security. Who will allow the citizens to protect themselves against terrorism (foreign and domestic)?

Question 19: If you found yourself unemployed – would you utilize the “unemployment benefits” offered to you by the State government which you have likely paid into?

Rick: Absolutely. But how can anybody ever be “unemployed”? Don’t we all have our own resourcefulness to fall back on?

Biff: Never have – never will. I was dismissed from a Defense Contract for blowing the whistle on \$100 million in fraud, waste and abuse of tax payer money. Rather than taking unemployment, I found another job.

Ralph: Yes, of course. As Milton Friedman was once reported to have said, “Just because I think rent control is a stupid idea does not mean that I will not live in a rent controlled apartment.” Each of us must be free to pursue our own happiness.

Desiree: I don’t know. It would depend on the circumstances

(can I feed my kids, pay the rent, find another source of income my pronto?). As a homemaker and a small business owner, that is not a headache I have to deal with personally, but it is an issue that I may have to confront if/when my husband gets discharged from the Army.

Question 20: What is your viewpoint on the current lawsuit against the US Government by the families of Mexican nationals who crossed into an Arizona (onto a National Preserve) illegally (under current immigration laws) and died due to dehydration. Their lawsuit claims the US Government should have provided water resources within the preserve knowing this was a popular crossing point for illegal immigrants.

Rick: It’s a pile of crap, and the judge who admitted it into his courtroom betrayed the Constitution. Those people went there voluntarily, and they must accept personal responsibility for the consequences of their own actions.

Biff: I feel very badly for their families, but if you do something illegal, and then you suffer the consequences, one should not be allowed to sue. The long-term solution is to open the border with Mexico as we have done with our Canadian friends. Americans need to treat Mexicans like family or friends, and stop treating them like enemies of the state.

Ralph: Borders are supposed to be secure. Providing water would make them less secure.

Desiree: I find it laughable that our legal system is now such a crock that non-citizens feel that they can sue our government for the risks/failures that they undertake. That’s like a junkie’s family suing the government for not offering rehab thus leading to the junkies overdose on heroin or some other illegal drug. My mother used to say, “be willing to accept –

We’d like to thank the candidates for answering our questions for this issue. We hope you found them useful as you learn a little more about the “clones” offered by the Republicans and the Democrats this year compared to our unique and personable candidates.

For next issue we are going to be sending similar, but not identical questions to the Libertarian Party of Colorado’s candidates for Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, and a few others including the CU Regent candidates.

Quotes to get your blood pressure up:

Our main agenda is to have all guns banned. We must use whatever means possible. It does not matter if you have to distort facts or even lie.”

*Sarah Brady
Handgun Control, Inc.
From “The National Educator”
January, 1994*



Joe Johnson writes the Activists' Corner for the Colorado Liberty monthly and is currently the chair of the Boulder County LP branch.

"I first explored libertarian ideas when I was in high school and my father handed me copies of Milton Friedman's Free to Choose and Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged."

I've been writing "The Activists' Corner" column for some time now, and usually my candidates for discussion appear to me so obvious and

glaring an example of Libertarian activism, that I just sit down and write. But it is with some embarrassment that I write about this month's activist. I say embarrassment because this person has been 'in the trenches' so long, and has done so much in the fight for liberty in this great state (and indeed across the nation), that it is shameful that it took me so long to write this article. Indeed, this person has become such a part of the libertarian landscape here in Colorado that I stopped noticing. Well, just as with the spectral views of this great state, I'm going to try to pay more attention, and like those snow-capped mountains, Colorado wouldn't be the same were this person gone.

I doubt that there is one of you who have not dealt with this person one-on-one during your time with the freedom movement. The effects can be felt in almost every aspect of the modern LPCO. Indeed, this activist played a major role in bringing the LPCO into the 'modern' age of political awareness. It was while in attendance at the LP of Colorado state convention that it hit me like a ton of bricks; if we [the LPCO] lost this activist, we would be seriously hobbled.

From arranging interviews with big names in the freedom movement, to editing our state party's newsletter, to maintaining the party's web page, to publishing the Colorado Freedom Report, to attending demonstrations and rallies, to helping to recruit candidates, to attending the state legislative sessions on behalf of all of us (and yes the list goes on - AND ON - from here), Ari Armstrong is one of the solid rocks of this party. In fact, I can't picture the LPCO without him. Anyone who attended this year's convention could see his handiwork. Together with Carol Hill and his tireless wife Jennifer, they put on one heck of a convention, one that shall henceforth be tough to match.

About a year ago, I interviewed Ari concerning his views of the Libertarian Party, and how he 'found' us. I have begun asking that question of just about every Libertarian I meet. This is not only to provide a source for this column, but I feel that looking at our past helps us

to predict our future, as well as narrowing our 'target market'. The response to my question shed a light into the soul of one of Colorado's hard-core Libertarians. His response is printed here in full.

JJ: Ari, could you tell me how long you have been a member of the party, what your political views, if different, were prior to joining, how you found the LP; and what you see for its future?

AA: "I was a libertarian long before I was a Libertarian. That is, I developed my political philosophy before I joined the party. I first explored libertarian ideas when I was in high school and my father handed me copies of Milton Friedman's Free to Choose and Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged. Then, in college, I found the Cato Institute and toured the libertarian summer conferences held by the Institute for Humane Studies and other groups. It's obvious to me that the Libertarian Party has introduced a lot of people to libertarian ideas, people like Joe Johnson. Yet we must remember that the Libertarian Party is not an end in itself; it is a political strategy for achieving liberty.

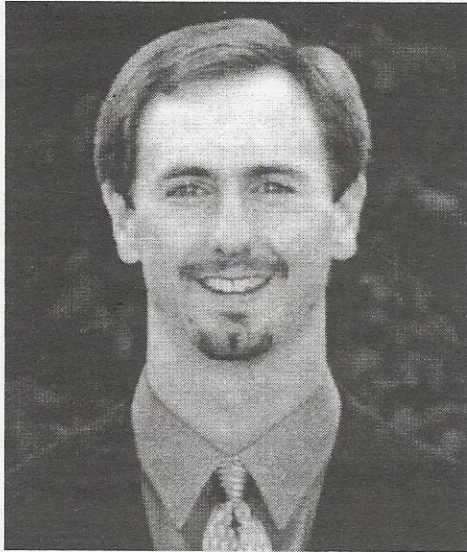
I was struck by these words of Nietzsche: "Whoever thinks much is not suitable as a party member: he soon thinks himself right through the party." However, the Libertarian Party is the party of thinkers. It is populated by former Republicans, Democrats, and even Socialists who thought themselves right through the false dichotomies of left and right, socialism and traditionalism. Over the years my politics has become (I hope) both more sophisticated and more nuanced. Yet I still believe that freedom is the proper condition of human beings. As long as the Libertarian Party remains the home of critical thinkers and champions of liberty, it will allow people to think themselves deeper into the party.

Toward the end of 1998, still before I joined the LP, I started an independent libertarian webpage called the *Colorado Freedom Report*, which remains on-line at www.co-freedom.com. Since then, articles on my page have been linked from *Free-Market.Net*, *KeepAnd-BearArms.com*, and various other internet sites. My work has been quoted in the *Denver Post* and the *Rocky Mountain News*. In my archives, you'll read about my spat with a state representative, debates over civil arms and abortion, and what I believe is the best analysis available anywhere about Timothy McVeigh's murders. With the help of other contributing writers, my page has become a leading voice for liberty in Colorado.

David Bryant first got me involved with the Colorado

The Activists Corner (concluded)

LP. I met him through the Austrian Economics group organized by Ken Riggs. When I agreed to take on the newsletter, David was handling the database and almost all of the office work, as well as the newsletter. Jennifer and I discussed the matter and offered to take over the newsletter from David.



Ari Armstrong—former Publications Advisor and currently editor of the Colorado Freedom Report

Running the page has led to other opportunities, which include designing the newsletter for the state LP and editing material for Sheriff Bill Masters. What I've learned is that ideas move the world, but only if we move the ideas first. We cannot choose between intellectualism and activism, though there is room for specialization. If we don't have both we'll get nowhere, or worse, someplace we don't want to be. Joe, as you have written all along, one person with determination can make a difference. I think that any one of us can be that person."

Amen brother - Amen!

Liberty in my lifetime!

— Joe Johnson

Ari Armstrong attended Pepperdine, where he studied both economics and philosophy and wrote columns for the school newspaper. He spent a summer working in Washington, D.C. with the Center for Market Processes and Families Against Mandatory Minimums, and he has attended numerous free-market summer conferences. Ari has authored articles featured in the Washington Post, Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News, Liberty Magazine, and a vast variety of other publications. Ari recently resigned his position as Publications Advisor in charge of the Libertarian Party of Colorado's newsletter publication the "Liberty" and is now working full time as editor of the Colorado Freedom Report, which can be seen at www.co-freedom.com.

THE COLORADO

LIBERTY 20

Next

Issue:

- Biff Baker & Case of the Missing \$100 Million
- Getting to Know You... with More Candidates
- News You Can Use ...and much more

"I cannot agree with those who think of the Bill of Rights as an 18th century straitjacket, unsuited for this age...The evils it guards against are not only old, they are with us now, they exist today."

HUGO BLACK (Supreme Court Justice, U.S. Senator) from *The Great Rights*, Cahn '63, p 44-45

THE COLORADO

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Submissions of news reports, editorials, calendar information, or any other relevant information for publication in the Colorado Liberty may be sent directly to Jim Vance at PublicationsDir@lpcolorado.org. Microsoft Office compatible formats of documents and standard JPG, GIF, or TIFF images accepted for submission. Text Only submissions are acceptable but subject to formatting changes. Please contact Jim for instruction on physical submissions of text or images.

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Tell us about it!

Having an event that other libertarians want to know about? Contact Jim Vance at jvance@jamesvance.com or call the LPCO at 720-941-2344.

Tell us MORE!

The Colorado Liberty is interested in learning about libertarian events that have been held around the state of Colorado. Send us info about the event you were at. Send us an article or a photo and we'll include it with credit to you in the next issue! Go to www.lpcolorado.org—then click in "Get Involved" to learn more about submitting an article, photo, or even an editorial to the Colorado Liberty for consideration. Join the reporting team of the Liberty and help this monthly out!

Desperately Seeking...

Solid, upstanding, caring and above all libertarian-minded candidates are desperately seeking good voters who care about their future, their country, and the future of all those who live in it. Candidates NEED you to care enough to vote NOT for the "lesser of two evils" this November—but for the candidate that ISN'T an "evil" - the Libertarian Party of Colorado candidate. For more information on who your Libertarian Party of Colorado candidates are, just visit our web page at: www.lpcolorado.org and go to the Candidates page where you'll find a complete list of the best candidates for YOUR future!

Wanted: Offices currently held by violators of the US and Colorado Constitutions. Include: US Senate, US House of Representatives, Governor, and others. Reward: Increased personal liberty and freedom!

ALSO Desperately Seeking...

The Outreach Dept. of the LP-CO is looking for a few good Libertarians to manage the LP Booth at Gun Shows. These are voluntary positions. Patriots only need apply. Requirements for these positions are:

- 1) Be registered to vote as Libertarian.
- 2) Be a dues-paying member of the LP-CO.
- 3) Have a strong understanding of LP Platform, Principles, *and* the practical application of these to 2nd Amendment current events, history, and constitutional basis.

The "2ND Amendment Deputy Outreach Director" will be in charge of recruiting and training volunteers to staff the booth. Locating, procuring, and setting up booth space at Gun Shows. Keeping and maintaining the LP's Booth and supplies. Collecting and reporting pertinent info to the Outreach Director. Coordinating with local affiliates.

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CONTACT Dana @ 303-637-7964
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Group plans civil disobedience protest in Chico, CA. Chico city council has passed new onerous ban on the use of nuclear weapons inside their city limits. We will be car-pooling to the area. Plan on meeting in Arvada on July 2nd. Bring radiation suits, Geiger counters and personal atomic explosive of your choice (please—no larger than a car) 970-555-1212. PLEASE call AFTER 1 AM

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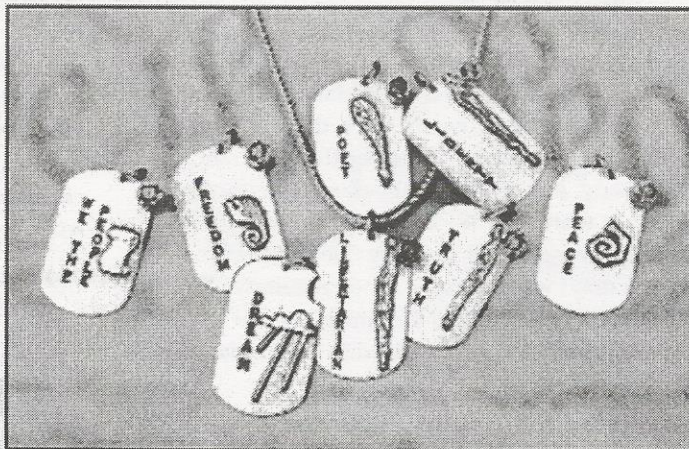
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The Last Word



Jim Vance is the LPCO's Publications Director, editor, and contributor to the Liberty on a monthly basis. Jim is running for CU Regent in District 6 as well.

Wow. What a weekend!

Oops, wait, someone already said that. Well

I'm proud to repeat it. Should I be depressed by the results of the weekend considering I put a year into the campaign effort? Should I be bitter? Should I have some really bad feelings towards 91 members of the party? YES! Am I? Hell, NO!

Look, here's the deal as I see it. The convention weekend was not a loss, just a shift to a higher gear. In the position of Publications Director I can work on EVERY Libertarian Party of Colorado candidate's campaign indirectly by helping raise awareness of them here in the Liberty and on the website, which I've been working on redesigning. I can spend time on a campaign I absolutely believe is not just winnable, but that the Libertarian candidate SHOULD be considered the frontrunner in the race. I can spend more time with my family and engaging those pass-times I've missed for the last year.

But what I want to do is introduce you to this new section of the Liberty, "The Last Word." This will be an editorial section that I would like to dedicate to whatever needs to be the last thing said before you all file this issue away. Whether that be a rant, a call to arms or an apology, this section will be available to anyone who needs it and is worthy of it. If nobody is, then I'll be filling this space. Ask anyone who's read my "novel length" e-mails. They know you don't want me on a tirade regularly. So I challenge you: FILL THIS SPACE! Mike McKinzie, do you want to rant on people why they need to get involved in Libertarian

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events? Do it here. You are the #1 guy I envision to be filling this spot. But it's open to anyone who wants to take a shot. It's just like the Jim Rome sports oriented radio show's participation motto says: "Have a 'take' — Don't suck." That's all he asks. That's all I ask.

Now for my quick 'take' this month. (Sorry if I intrude on your schtick, Mr. McKinzie). Fellow members of the LPCO... **GET OFF YOUR BUTTS** and help out. Do you realize that there are about 5000 of you out there that need to be DEEPLY involved in the goings-on of this party for the next five months? No? I didn't think so. Well, let me explain it to you:

- We have about 50 candidates out there who need help. You could be helping them out physically or financially. That means we could have about 100 people on each campaign. Do you think we'd lose if we had 100 volunteers on each campaign effort? I don't. We'd kick serious status quo butt!
- There are about 90 positions still open that could use a good candidate. A good candidate means an ACTIVE candidate. Line-holder candidates are good too, by the way! A FULL ballot of 138 Libertarian candidates—even with some being line holders—would be an AMAZING accomplishment. Plus, doing something like that would scare the hell out of the Ds & Rs!
- If you can't or won't help on a campaign or be a candidate, then get out there and be an outreach participant. Work a gun show. Work an event. Work a crowd! Sign up new Libertarians. Hand out literature. **HELP OUT!**
- **WRITE** to EVERY newspaper you can. Letters to the editor about whatever issue needs to be addressed through a libertarian filter gets our party attention. Drop the Libertarian Party name. Better yet, drop the name of a candidate. Be polite. Back up your statements with facts, not emotion or conjecture. Have someone proofread your work before sending it (Fred Boucher can help you!).

There. Just some things you could be doing, nay, **SHOULD** to be doing. You have five months. **GET TO WORK... PLEASE!**

— Editorial by *Jim Vance*

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